

TRIBAL NATION GRANT FUND PROGRAM**Minutes of the October 2, 2020
Tribal Nation Grant Fund Program Meeting**

Hearing Room 100/Teleconference
2399 Gateway Oaks Drive
Sacramento, CA 95833
www.tngf.ca.gov

OPEN SESSION**1. Call to Order**

Christina Snider called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.

2. Traditional Opening

Chairman Denver led the Panel in a traditional opening prayer.

3. Roll Call

Roll call of Panel members was taken with Chairman Attebery, Chairwoman Pinto, Chairwoman Bovee, Chairman Miller, Chairman Smith, and Chairman Denver – present via teleconference. Quorum was met, and all Panel members were identified as voting members.

4. Consideration of TNGF Emergency Grant

- Review Questionnaire Responses**

Christina Snider reviewed the responses of the TNGF Emergency Funds and Resource Assistance Questionnaire.

Some of the feedback received seemed to be more preventative needs for emergencies, and Christina Snider envisioned this grant to cover more unexpected emergency needs.

There was a mix of responses coming in for a perspective or reimbursement grant. There are tribes who seem to be actively managing these crises and those that have an influx of expenses coming in due to these emergencies.

In response to, *“roughly how much is your Tribe spending on expenditures that are not currently covered under other available funding sources,”* Tribes that are experiencing fire emergencies right now were coming in at \$50,000 to \$60,000 in costs already incurred that are not likely recoverable in other sources.

Christina Snider recommended the release of the Emergency Response Grant at \$100,000 per emergency, with tribes being able to apply for multiple grants in a cycle, if they have multiple emergencies. The idea is to structure it for relief for the immediate impacts of unexpected situations that threaten the health and safety of tribal communities and require emergency action.

Reimbursement awards would be for expenses already occurred and would not need any reporting; they would be based on receipts and documentation already turned in and that is what would be audited.

Prospective awards would be more prescriptive because they need to be more tightly tied to the expenditures.

Tribes could apply for a mixed, reimbursement and prospective, award where expenses have already been incurred, but tribes know that they are going to need to pay rent for 20 tribal members.

The prospective awards would need to be expended or encumbered within 30 days of the tribes receipt, the idea being this really is an immediate need. It would have one final report do at six months, with the idea that those funds should have been spent within the 30 days.

Chairman Denver - some tribes are indirectly affected by these emergencies and would benefit from seeking emergency funds. Bishop is currently dealing with hazardous air quality due to nearby fires, although Bishop is not directly dealing with fires, the smoke from these fires has caused issues. When the tribal administration office has to shut down due to these hazards, it cost the tribe around \$30,000 a day.

Christina Snider reviewed the draft emergency response Grant Guidelines.

Chairman Smith made a motion to allocate \$3 million for the Emergency Response Grant for eligible tribes and retain a \$1 million for future use. Chairwoman Bovee seconded the motion with, Chairman Attebery, Chairwoman Pinto, Chairman Miller, and Chairman Denver voting yes to approve; by consensus the Panel approved the allocation of \$3 million for the Emergency Response Grant.

Chairwoman Bovee made a motion to approve the TNGF Emergency Response Grant Guidelines, Chairman Smith seconded the motion. Chairwoman Bovee amended the motion adding - staff will make it live as soon as prepared. Chairman Smith accepted the amendment with, Chairman Attebery, Chairwoman Pinto, Chairman Miller, and Chairman Denver voting yes to approve; by consensus the Panel approved the TNGF Emergency Response Grant Guidelines and staff will release it to go live as soon as it is finalized.

Chairman Attebery requested clarification about prospective and reimbursement awards and whether the \$100,000 total changes.

Christina Snider confirmed that it is \$100,000 per emergency and tribes can apply for both prospective and reimbursement at the same time for one emergency, and if tribes have another emergency they can apply for up to an additional \$100,000.

Public Comment – Vanessa Minott, Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians - Many people have animals and livestock. Will this be included as an approved expenditure? When being relocated many people need to place their animals as well.

Christina Snider responded - It would be on a case by case basis. If a tribe submitted an application that covered those types of expenses as being included in their emergency relocation expenses, then the Panel would consider it on a case by case basis.

5. Future Meeting Dates and Topics

Meeting on October 16, 2020 is cancelled

Next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 30, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. (Note: This was also cancelled; postponed to November 13, 2020)

6. Public Comment on Matters Not on the Agenda

Public Comment – Vanessa Minott, Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians -When will the next Equal Distribution grant will be available?

Christina Snider responded - As of right now it's a little unclear, we should have a better picture in early 2021.

ADJOURNMENT